UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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10/574,945	04/07/2006	Haruo Yoshida	SON-3117	7327

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RADER FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC
LION BUILDING
1233 20TH STREET N.W., SUITE 501
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER
RUIZ, ANGELICA

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *04 December 2007*.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-14* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-14* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   The Action is responsive to Applicant's amendment, filed on December 4, 2007.

Response to Amendment

2.   Acknowledgment is made that the amendment, Claims 1, 4-7 and 11-14 have been

considered. Claims 1-14 are pending for further examination

Response to Arguments

4.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14 have been considered but are moot in

view of the new grounds of rejection necessitated by Applicant's amendment of the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

6.   Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Um et al.**

(US Publication No. 2003/01161616 A1), in view of **Beattie et al. (US Patent 5,659,742).**

As per Claim 1 Um discloses:

> *- A file managing apparatus for managing files recorded on a recording medium which*
>
> *has an index file recorded as a series of entries including blocks of extract information derived*
>
> *from and corresponding to said files to be managed; wherein said index file includes a*
>
> *plurality of files into which data including the extract information is divided by attribute and*
>
> *the plurality of files includes a property file having data representative of attributes of said*
>
> *files to be managed;*

(Abstract, "The present invention relates to a method of conducting management operations such

as deletion, copy, and movement of recorded still pictures recorded on a recording medium. The

present method records still pictures onto a recording medium, groups the recorded still pictures

based on their attributes, creates a list listing filenames of respective still pictures belonging to

each still-picture group, and writes the filename list onto the recording medium. Afterwards, if a

deleting or an inter-group moving command is received for a still picture recorded on the

recording medium, the present method deletes a filename of the still picture ...") and (Par

[0030]).

- wherein said file managing apparatus records a still picture file in such a manner

that an entry including extract information about the still picture file is registered into said

index file,

(Par [0009] By the way, a digital video recorder (DVR) records video and audio data in a file

structure shown in FIG. 2. The file structure of FIG. 2 has a DVR directory under a root

directory. The DVR directory includes a menu file `menu.tdat`, a mark file mark.tdat`, and their

index files `menu.tidx` and `mark.tidx`. The menu and the mark file

have menu data and mark data respectively and the index files have search data to index menu

and mark data in the menu and the mark file.").

- and reorganizes said index file in such a manner that a plurality of still picture files

recorded on said recording medium are grouped into a single movie file;

(Abstract and Claim 2, further comprising the step of conducting presentation of still pictures of

a chosen stillpicture group in order that their filenames are arranged on a filename list associated

with the chosen still-picture group") and (Par [0023], "... a still picture video 12 and a still

picture audio encoder 13, a movie video 14 and a

movie audio encoder 15...").

   - and wherein the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped

into said movie file are deleted from said index file by setting a valid-invalid information as

invalid in the property file to indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid,

(Par [0010]) and (Par [0014], "Another method of managing a still picture recorded on a

recording medium in accordance with the present invention is characterized in that it comprises

the steps of: receiving a deleting or an inter-group moving command for a still picture recorded

on a recording medium; and deleting a filename of the still picture written on a filename list

including the filename of the still picture.") and (Par [0051], "If a file deletion is requested by a

user, the controller 19 deletes a concerned filename on a filename list without deleting that data

file. The data file whose filename has been deleted in the filename list is not presented when a

SPG including the data file is presented.") and (Par [0053]). The "STREAM " being the "movie

file" file as claimed.

   - while an entry comprising including extract information about said movie file is

registered into said index file.

(Par [0053], "The entry position to be inserted is equivalent to a presentation

order of the moved or copied still picture (or DCF object). FIG. 8 illustrates, in the second SPG,

that the DCF object `BABY1095` is newly added to the second SPG and its presentation order is

next to the object `BABY0999`.").

However Um does not specifically discloses "deleted from said index file"

On the other hand Beattie discloses the above claimed feature as follow:

(Col. 31, lines 26-39, "An index update unit 932 is also coupled to the publisher format

conversion block 912 of the data preparation component 900. The index update unit 932 updates

the document indexes within the document index 117 when a new document or group of

documents is added to the data center 110. Additionally, the index update unit 932 updates the

document index database 117 when documents are purged from the data center...").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time

of invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Beattie into the method of Um to take

advantage updating the index file according to deletion. The modification would have been

obvious because one of the ordinary skills in the art would implement deleting the transferred

data to a new file to avoid repetition and save space.

As per Claim 2, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Um discloses:

- wherein said movie file is an external reference type file which offers the

corresponding still pictures in reference to said plurality of still picture files recorded on said

recording medium; and wherein said file managing apparatus forms said movie file so that

said movie file points to said plurality of still picture files.

(Par [0010], "The `DVR` directory is mandatory for motion picture recording of a DVR. The

`DVR` directory has directories `PLAYLIST`, `CLIPINF`, and `STREAM`. The `PLAYLIST`

directory includes playlist files (*.rpls,*. vpls) containing motion-picture and still-picture play

items and title management information. The directory `CLIPINF` includes clip information files

(*.clpi) containing information on movie stream management and movie attribute and the

directory `STREAM` includes stream files (*.m2ts) containing actual motion-picture data stream

packets.") and (Abstract and claim 12, "…including data of a plurality of still pictures and at

least one list, wherein said list

includes filenames of the still pictures to define presentation sequence of the still pictures.") and

(Par [0043], "The still-picture information file (*.stli) is structure as shown in FIG. 6. The still-

picture information file is composed of general information of still-picture information

`Stillinfo_GI`, a plurality of SPG information search pointers `SPGI_SRP #k`, and plural pieces

of SPG information `SPGI #k`. The general information of still-picture information

`Stillinfo_GI` includes type of still pictures, recording time, the number of SPGIs, and so on.").

As per Claim 3, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Um discloses:

>   *- wherein said movie file is a self-contained type file which has real data representative*

of picture data related to said plurality of still picture files and which offers the corresponding

still pictures based on said real data;

(Par [0030], "At this time, the controller 19 creates management information to group still

pictures and associated audio data or thumbnails. The group is determined based on attribute or

subject of data objects, namely still pictures and/or audio data.") and (Fig. 1 and Fig. 2).

- wherein said file managing apparatus forms said movie file by successively acquiring said

picture data from said plurality of still picture files; and wherein, upon deleting from said

index file the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said

movie file, said file managing apparatus also deletes said plurality of still picture files.

(Par [0035], "FIGS. 4 to 8 show a schematic still-picture recording/grouping process and group

management information related with still picture managing in accordance with the present

invention. In this embodiment, the controller 17 records still pictures, and associated audio data

and thumbnails, etc. in the DCF structure adopted by a DSC, as shown in FIG. 4. At this time,

still pictures and associated audio data and thumbnails with same attribute are designated to a

single SPG. At this time, a file name list is created for the single...") and (Abstract,

"...Afterwards, if a deleting or an inter-group moving command is received for a still picture

recorded on the recording medium, the present method deletes a filename of the still picture

written on the filename list including the filename of the still picture...").

As per Claim 4, the rejection of claim 2 is incorporated and further Um discloses:

- wherein said extract information is organized into groups by attribute of said extract

information so that entries of thumbnail images representative of said still picture files are

formed in said index file; wherein said file managing apparatus acquires data about said

thumbnail images representative of said plurality of still picture files from said index file and

associates the acquired data with said still picture files so as to form groups of real data

including the data about said thumbnail images in said movie file; and wherein said file

managing apparatus deletes the entries of said thumbnail images representative of said still

picture files recorded in said index file.

(Abstract, "The present invention relates to a method of conducting management operations such as deletion, copy, and movement of recorded still pictures recorded on a recording medium. The present method records still pictures onto a recording medium, groups the recorded still pictures based on their attributes, creates a list listing filenames of respective still pictures belonging to each still-picture group, and writes the filename list onto the recording medium. Afterwards, if a deleting or an inter-group moving command is received for a still picture recorded on the recording medium, the present method deletes a filename of the still picture written on the filename list including the filename of the still picture. Such a still picture managing method through a filename list ensures that moving, copying, and deleting operations of numerous recorded still pictures can be conducted easily.") and (Par [0030], "...At this time, the controller 19 creates management information to group still pictures and associated audio data or thumbnails. The group is determined based on attribute or subject of data objects, namely still pictures and/or audio data.").

As per Claim 5, the rejection of claim 3 is incorporated and further Um discloses:

- wherein said extract information is organized into groups by attribute of said extract information so that entries of thumbnail images representative of said still picture files are formed in said index file;

(Par [0030], "...At this time, the controller 19 creates management information to group still pictures and associated audio data or thumbnails. The group is determined based on attribute or subject of data objects, namely still pictures and/or audio data.").

- wherein said file managing apparatus acquires data about said thumbnail images

representative of said plurality of still picture files from said index file and associates the

acquired data with the picture data so as to form groups of real data including a series of the

data about said thumbnail images in said movie file; and wherein said file managing

apparatus deletes the entries of said thumbnail images representative of said still picture files

recorded in said index file.

(Abstract and Claim 4, "…further comprising the step of copying, if change of presentation

sequence of still pictures of a still-picture group is requested, a filename list associated with the

still-picture group, and rearranging filenames on the copied filename list in accordance with the

change request of presentation sequence.").

As per Claim 6, the rejection of claim 2 is incorporated and further Um discloses:

- wherein said extract information is organized into groups by attribute of said extract

information so that entries in text of titles representative of said still picture files are formed in

said index file;

(Par [0030], "…At this time, the controller 19 creates management information to group still

pictures and associated audio data or thumbnails. The group is determined based on attribute or

subject of data objects, namely still pictures and/or audio data.") and (Par [0010], "…containing

motion-picture and still-picture play items and title management information….").

- wherein said file managing apparatus acquires data about said titles representative of

said plurality of still picture files from said index file and associates the acquired data with

said still picture files so as to form groups of real data including the data about said titles in

said movie file; and wherein said file managing apparatus deletes the entries of said titles

representative of said

still picture files recorded in said index file.

(Abstract, "The present invention relates to a method of conducting management operations such as deletion, copy, and movement of recorded still pictures recorded on a recording medium. The present method records still pictures onto a recording medium, groups the recorded still pictures based on their attributes, creates a list listing filenames of respective still pictures belonging to each still-picture group, and writes the filename list onto the recording medium. Afterwards, if a deleting or an inter-group moving command is received for a still picture recorded on the recording medium, the present method deletes a filename of the still picture written on the filename list including the filename of the still picture. Such a still picture managing method through a filename list ensures that moving, copying, and deleting operations of numerous recorded still pictures can be conducted easily.") and (Par [0030], "…At this time, the controller 19 creates management information to group still pictures and associated audio data or thumbnails. The group is determined based on attribute or subject of data objects, namely still pictures and/or audio data.").

As per Claim 7, the rejection of claim 3 is incorporated and further Um discloses:

- wherein said extract information is organized into groups by attribute of said extract

information so that entries in text of titles representative of said still picture files are formed in

said index file;

(Abstract, "The present invention relates to a method of conducting management operations such as deletion, copy, and movement of recorded still pictures recorded on a recording medium. The present method records still pictures onto a recording medium, groups the recorded still pictures based on their attributes, creates a list listing filenames of respective still pictures belonging to each still-picture group, and writes the filename list onto the recording medium. Afterwards, if a deleting or an inter-group moving command is received for a still picture recorded on the recording medium, the present method deletes a filename of the still picture written on the filename list including the filename of the still picture. Such a still picture managing method through a filename list ensures that moving, copying, and deleting operations of numerous recorded still pictures can be conducted easily.").

- wherein said file managing apparatus acquires data about said titles representative of said plurality of still picture files from said index file and associates the acquired data with the picture data so as to form groups of real data including the data about said titles in said movie file; and wherein said file managing apparatus deletes the entries of said titles representative of said still picture files recorded in said index file.

(Par [0010]) and (Par [0014], "Another method of managing a still picture recorded on a recording medium in accordance with the present invention is characterized in that it comprises the steps of: receiving a deleting or an inter-group moving command for a still picture recorded on a recording medium; and deleting a filename of the still picture written on a filename list including the filename of the still picture.") and (Par [0051], "If a file deletion is requested by a user, the controller 19 deletes a concerned filename on a filename list without deleting that data

file. The data file whose filename has been deleted in the filename list is not presented when a

SPG including the data file is presented.") and (Par [0053]).

As per Claim 8, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Um discloses:

- wherein said plurality of still picture files associated with the reorganization of said

index file belong to a particular folder.

(Abstract and Claim 2, "further comprising the step of conducting presentation of still pictures of

a chosen still-picture group in order that their filenames are arranged on a filename list

associated with the chosen still-picture group.") and (Par [0009], "The file structure of FIG. 2 has

a DVR directory under a root directory. The DVR directory includes a menu file `menu.tdat`, a

mark file `mark.tdat`, and their index files `menu.tidx` and `mark.tidx`. The menu and the mark

file have menu data and mark data respectively and the index files have search data to index

menu and mark data in

the menu and the mark file.").

As per Claim 9, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Um discloses:

- wherein the number of entries in said index file is determined and said index file is

reorganized based on the determination result.

(Par [0030], "…The group is determined based on attribute or subject of data objects, namely

still pictures and/or audio data.") and (Abstract and Claim 2, "…further comprising the step of

conducting presentation of still pictures of a chosen stillpicture

group in order that their filenames are arranged on a filename list associated with the chosen

still-picture group.").

As per Claim 10, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Um discloses:

- wherein the number of entries determined in said index file is presented to a user and said

index file is reorganized in response to user instruction.

(Par [0053], "If a user requests movement or copy of a still picture (or a DCF object) to other

SPG, its filename is, in case of movement, deleted in a filename list of a previous SPG, as

explained before, and is inserted in a proper entry position of a filename list of a target SPG. The

entry position to be inserted is equivalent to a presentation order of the moved or copied still

picture (or DCF object). FIG. 8 illustrates, in the second SPG, that the DCF object `BABY1095`

is newly added to the second SPG and its presentation order is next to the object `BABY0999`.")

and (Par [0054], "For conducting user's request of presentation sequence change, a user-defined

filename list can be created additionally. In this case, when a user changes presentation

sequence, concerned filenames are moved and/or deleted on the additional user-defined filename

list while an original filename list in the SPGI is not altered.").

As per Claim 11, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Um discloses:

 - wherein re-registration of said still picture files is carried out in such a manner that

the entry including the extract information about said movie file is deleted from said index file

while the entries including the extract information about said plurality of still picture files are

registered into said index file.

(Abstract and Claim 7, "further comprising the step of inserting, in case of an inter-group

moving command, a filename of the movement-requested still picture in a filename list including

filenames of still picture files belonging to a target group.").

However Um does not specifically discloses "deleted from said index file"

On the other hand Beattie discloses the above claimed feature as follow:

(Col. 31, lines 26-39, "An index update unit 932 is also coupled to the publisher format

conversion block 912 of the data preparation component 900. The index update unit 932 updates

the document indexes within the document index 117 when a new document or group of

documents is added to the data center 110. Additionally, the index update unit 932 updates the

document index database 117 when documents are purged from the data center…").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time

of invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Beattie into the method of Um to take

advantage updating the index file according to deletion. The modification would have been

obvious because one of the ordinary skills in the art would implement deleting the transferred

data to a new file to avoid repetition and save space.

As per Claim 12, being the method claim corresponding to the apparatus claim 1, respectively

and rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejections of Claim 1 and

further Um discloses: (Par [0021], "FIG. 3 is a block diagram of a disk device which a method of

managing still pictures recorded on a

rewritable recording medium in accordance with the present invention is embedded in.").

As per Claim 13, being the method program claim corresponding to the apparatus claim 1,

respectively and rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejections of Claim

1 and further Um discloses: (Tile, "Method of managing recorded still pictures on a recording

medium").

As per Claim 14, being the recording medium claim corresponding to the apparatus claim 1,

respectively and rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejections of Claim

1 and further Um discloses: (Tile, "Method of managing recorded still pictures on a recording

medium").

Conclusion

7.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

8.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to ANGELICA RUIZ whose telephone number is (571)570-3158.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., ET.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Mohammad Ali can be reached on (571) 272-4105. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

March 10, 2008   Ruiz Angelica
                                                       Art Unit 2169

AR

/J. M. C./

/Mohammad Ali/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2169